Pre-K Partner Program

The Barnes provides free in-depth programming to grades pre-K, 3, 5, and 7 in select partner schools in the School District of Philadelphia and Catholic schools in the Delaware Valley. Students receive a field trip to the Barnes and two in-school lessons led by grade-level specialists. These programs are free and include materials, busing, and admission costs. Learn more and submit your request to partner at barnesfoundation.org/school-programs.

About the Lessons

The pre-K partner program emphasizes the role of visual arts in the lives of pre-kindergarten students by expanding the typical early childhood concept of art from just art making to the experience of looking at, talking about, and making connections to art and artists. The program includes a gallery visit to the Barnes and two post-visit interactive classroom experiences.

At the Barnes, students will analyze and respond to artworks in the galleries, focusing on color and genre. In the classroom lessons, students will explore lines and shapes through storytelling, interactive activities, and art making, and by looking at art together. Students will connect the elements of art (color, lines, and shapes) to their lives and the world around them.

Gallery visits for pre-K programs at the Barnes take place on Wednesdays at 10 am. Space is limited; register today or contact jallen@barnesfoundation.org for more information.

Partner Program Goals:

- To increase students’ ability to think critically about the visual world around them.
- To help students and teachers of all backgrounds feel comfortable and confident in a museum setting.
- To encourage students and teachers of all backgrounds to find relevance in art, and to think of it as an outlet for personal creative expression.
- To deepen students’ and teachers’ historical and cultural empathy.
• To support students’ academic growth by aligning lessons with curricular standards.
• To model arts integration and inquiry-based learning for teachers.
• To ensure that the Barnes is seen as a partner in community arts education.

**After Completing Program, Students Will Be Able To:**

• Express critical-thinking skills by making predictions and using evidence while responding to artwork.
• Using “I think . . . because . . .”
• Answer and construct questions of “How” and “I wonder.”
• Explore and ask questions to seek meaningful information about a growing range of topics, ideas, and tasks.
• Know and use basic elements of visual arts by demonstrating an understanding of color, shape, and line.
• Use new art and content vocabulary and phrases acquired during the program.

**This Program Addresses the Following Standards:**

Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood:

• 9.1.V PK.A Know and use basic elements of visual arts.
• 9.1.V PK.B Combine a variety of materials to create a work of art.
• 9.1.V PK.E Use imagination and creativity to express self through visual arts.
• 9.3 PK.F Recognize and name a variety of art forms.
• 9.3 PK.G Formulate and share an opinion about others’ art products.
• 1.3 PK.J Use new vocabulary and phrases acquired through conversation and being read to.
• 1.3 PK.K With prompting and support, actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.

**About the Barnes**

The Barnes was established by Dr. Albert C. Barnes in 1922 as a teaching institution. The Barnes’s art collection contains paintings, sculptures, furniture, textiles, and jewelry from around the world—Europe, Africa, and Asia, as well as Pennsylvania and the American Southwest. In his gallery, Dr. Barnes arranged works of art into groups, which he called “ensembles,” based on visual similarities. Each ensemble was designed to reveal new ways of looking at art. In May 2012, the Barnes moved from Merion, PA, to Philadelphia, making the art more accessible to students and visitors from the region and beyond.